

MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

4. The use as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein the combination used is metal  $\alpha$ -lipoates, metal  $\alpha$ -dihydrolipoates or metal-  $\alpha$ -lipoic acid complexes.
6. The use as claimed in claim 1 [one of claims 1 to 5], wherein the  $\alpha$ -lipoic acid used is (R)- $\alpha$ -lipoic acid or the  $\alpha$ -lipoate used is (R)- $\alpha$ -lipoate.
15. The use of the metal  $\alpha$ -lipoates, metal  $\alpha$ -dihydrolipoates or metal- $\alpha$ -lipoic acid complexes as claimed in claim 5 [in accordance with claim 14] for treating diabetes, tumors, HIV infections, AIDS, renal insufficiency, malnutrition, protein-energy malnutrition and mineral deficiencies.

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